

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

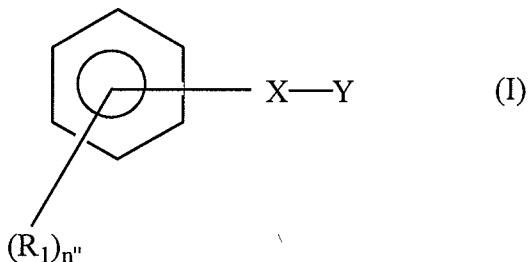
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

1-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended): A cleaning solution comprising, based on the total weight of the solution:

- more than 50% by weight of at least one lactone (component A); and
- 1 to 10% by weight of at least one surfactant compound (component B) having a HLB ranging from 8 to 15 and selected from the group consisting of compounds of formula:



wherein:

R_1 denotes a hydrocarbon group comprising from 1 to 20 carbon atoms;

n'' is an integer from 1 to 5,

X denotes a valence link, $-O-$, $-OCH_2-$, $C=O$ or $(CH_2)_k$, k being an integer varying from 1 to 2;

Y denotes $(RO)_jH$ wherein j is an integer ranging from 2 to 40, and

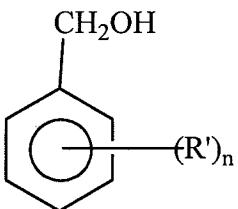
R is a divalent hydrocarbon group,

and compounds of formula:

$CH_3(CH_2)_l - O - (CH_2CH_2O)_m - H \quad (II)$, wherein l is an integer from 6 to 13 and m is an integer from 3 to 15; and

- at least another component selected from:

- o a component C of formula:



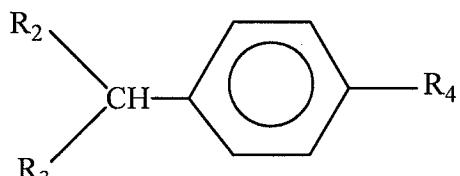
wherein:

n denotes an integer from 0 to 5, and

R' is an alkyl group or an alkoxy group -[O-Z]_{n'}-H in which Z is a

divalent alkyl group and n' is an integer from 0 to 10, and

- o a component D, being at least one additional compound having the formula:



wherein:

R₂ and R₃, being identical or different, are alkyl groups having from 1 to

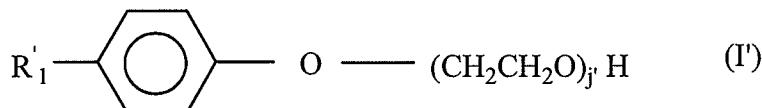
4 carbon atoms, and

R₄ is H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

27. (Currently amended): [[t]]The cleaning solution of claim 26, further defined as comprising, based on the total weight of the solution, at least 60% by weight of the at least one lactone.
28. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim 27, further defined as comprising, based on the total weight of the solution, at least 70% by weight of the at least one lactone.

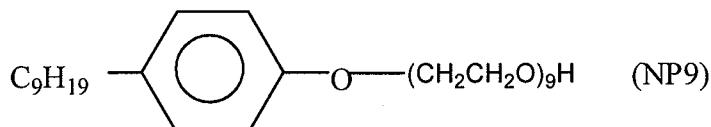
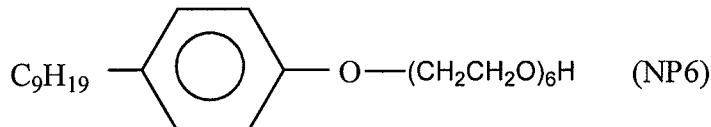
29. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim 28, further defined as comprising, based on the total weight of the solution, at least 80% by weight of the at least one lactone.
30. (Cancelled)
31. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim [[30]]26, wherein n is 0 or 1.
32. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim [[30]]26, wherein R' is an alkyl group having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms.
33. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim [[30]]26, further defined as comprising, based on the total weight of the solution, from 0.1 to 20% by weight of [[C]]component C.
34. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim [[30]]26, further defined as comprising, based on the total weight of the solution, from 2 to 10% by weight of ~~at least one benzyl alcohol~~ of component C.
35. (Cancelled)
36. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim [[30]]26, wherein component C is benzyl alcohol.
37. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein the hydrocarbon group R₁ comprises from 5 to 15 carbon atoms.
38. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein the hydrocarbon group R₁ comprises from 7 to 15 carbon atoms.
39. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein n" equals 1.
40. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein j is an integer from 2 to 20.
41. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein j is an integer from 4 to 15.

42. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein j is an integer from 6 to 12.
43. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein the divalent hydrocarbon group R has 2 carbon atoms.
44. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein the at least one surfactant (component B) has the formula:



wherein R'1 is a C₅-C₁₀ alkyl moiety and j' is an integer from 5 to 10.

45. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 44, wherein the at least one surfactant comprises:



or a mixture thereof.

46. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim 26, wherein the lactone is a 4 to 6-membered cyclic ester[[s]] having an ester functional group -C(O)-O- in its ring or a derivative thereof.
47. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim 46, wherein the at least one lactone is further defined as α -angelicalactone, β -propiolactone, γ -butyrolactone, γ -caprylolactone, γ -laurolactone, γ -palmitolactone, γ -stearolactone, γ -crotolactone, γ -valerolactone, δ -valerolactone, γ -caprolactone, δ -caprolactone, or γ -gluconolactone.

48. (Cancelled)
49. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim [[48]]26, wherein the additional compound comprises up to 10% by weight of the cleaning solution.
50. (Currently amended): The cleaning solution of claim [[48]]26, wherein the additional compound comprises up to 8% by weight of the cleaning solution ~~by weight~~.
51. (Cancelled)
52. (Previously presented): The cleaning solution of claim 26, further defined as having a pH from 4 to 7.
53. (Currently amended): A process for cleaning an item soiled by organic materials, comprising dipping the soiled item into the cleaning solution of claim 26.
54. (Previously presented): The cleaning process of claim 53, wherein the cleaning solution is at a temperature ranging from 40 to 80°C at the time of dipping.
55. (Previously presented): The cleaning process of claim 53, wherein the dipping time is 5 minutes or less.
56. (Previously presented): The cleaning process of claim 53, further comprising, after the dipping step of the soiled item into the cleaning solution, dipping the item into a basic aqueous solution comprising from 1 to 10% by weight of potassium hydroxide based on the total weight of the aqueous solution.
57. (Previously presented): The cleaning process of claim 53, wherein the item is soiled by a thermosetting material.
58. (Previously presented): The cleaning process of claim 53, wherein the item is made of mineral glass.
59. (Previously presented): The cleaning process of claim 53, wherein the item is a mold for optical lenses.
60. (Currently amended): The cleaning process of claim 53, wherein the ~~optical lens is an item is a mold for ophthalmic lenses~~.

61 (Previously presented): The cleaning process of claim 53, wherein the item has a progressive geometry surface.

62. (Cancelled)